

Statement delivered by Russia – Informal Interactive Dialogue on R2P, 6 September 2016  
[UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTION FROM WEBCAST]

Thank you, Mr. Moderator. We take into account the most recent report of the Secretary General on Responsibility to Protect. We note the continuing promotion of this issue on specific country subjects, including Syria. The report confirms that many states state that a danger for citizens comes from their own governments. Similar attempts to artificially simplify the situations in black and white terms cannot help but concern us.

In the report, there is also a reference to the Libyan situation. As is known, the armed intervention into this country in 2011 led to serious worsening of the situation – the increase in civilian suffering and the paralysis of state institutions. A continuation of this conflict led to a number of consequences, from a spread of weapons and instability throughout the region to the migration crisis in the Mediterranean. These, and other issues in 2011, once again are recalling the lack of preparation in the decisions that were made in that period.

As a whole, the fragile consensus of 2005 was significantly affected. This example should have led us to think about the fact that there is something that is not right with this concept on R2P, and how it should not be used for one country's interpretation. It is to be regretted that in the report, there is no note of this issue, as well as the issues that took place in Libya.

In conclusion, we wish to stress that without an honest, multilateral analysis of what took place in Libya - both from the Secretariat and from states - discussing any further development of R2P would be very difficult. Unfortunately, the experience of the previous years has shown that interactive dialogues on R2P lead further and further to a monologue of those who are proponents of the concept, and who are very sensitive to any criticism of this concept. With this as the background, an increased value of the inclusion of R2P into the official agenda of the General Assembly, and the adoption of a resolution on this topic, is not very clear for us.

We have many more questions on the report, but unfortunately during three minutes we would not be able to list them all.

Thank you.